

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 THE HAGUE 002912

SIPDIS

STATE FOR S/CT, EB/ESC/IEC, INR/EC, DS/ITA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/26/2015

TAGS: [EPET](#) [ETRD](#) [EWWT](#) [PTER](#) [PINR](#) [ASEC](#) [KHLs](#)

SUBJECT: ROTTERDAM VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

REF: STATE 182688

Classified By: GLOBAL ISSUES SECTION CHIEF SUSAN GARRO FOR REASONS 1.4
(e) and (g)

11. (C) Summary. The sprawling port of Rotterdam and its substantial petroleum refining and storage facilities is critical to the European economy. The Dutch government considers the port one of seven "critical infrastructure" sectors in the Netherlands, and considerable public and private sector resources have been devoted to enhancing security at the port and related industrial complex. The port is widely recognized as having high security standards. Port management and security is the responsibility of the Rotterdam municipal government, which conducted a risk assessment in 2004 for the port, including the petrochemical complex. The GONL has not performed an independent vulnerability assessment for the port or refineries. The refineries in Rotterdam produce approximately 1.1 million barrels per day (bpd). End Summary.
12. (C) Rotterdam is the second largest port in the world and a vital component of the Dutch and European trade and transportation system. It is also one of the most important petrochemical centers and the largest oil transshipment port in the world. Nearly 102 million metric tons of crude oil passed through the port in 2004. Shell, ExxonMobil, BP/ChevronTexaco and Kuwait Petroleum Corp all have major refineries in Rotterdam; together they produce approximately 1.1 million barrels per day (bpd). The port and industrial complex cover 40 kilometers; the refineries are concentrated in three locations along the port, Pernis, Botlek and Europoort.
13. (C) The Rotterdam municipal government conducted a risk assessment for the port and industrial complex, including the petrochemical refineries, in 2004. The city government manages the port through a government corporation known as Rotterdam Municipal Port Management, and is responsible for ensuring the security of the port. The Rotterdam public security department, the port authority, police and fire departments all participated. The assessment divided the port infrastructure into a variety of different infrastructure facilities, and assigned one of three levels of risk to each. According to Jolanda Trijselaar of the Rotterdam public security department, all of the petrochemical facilities were determined to be in the highest category of risk, calculated as a factor of the perceived risk and the potential impact of an attack. Trijselaar noted that the refineries generally exceed GONL security requirements, because they follow the security guidelines of the parent company's home country, which tend to be more stringent than the GONL's own requirements.
14. (C) Following the risk assessment, the municipal government provided recommendations for security enhancements, tailored to the type of facility and level of risk. Trijselaar noted that implementation of the security recommendations is voluntary on the part of private firms, as the municipal government cannot mandate implementation.
15. (C) Trijselaar stated that, apart from the risk assessment conducted by the municipal government, International Maritime Organization and European Union regulations require port facilities to comply with the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code. The port has voluntarily extended the provisions of the ISPS Code to cover inland barges and terminals in addition to terminals and oceangoing ships involved in international trade. Altogether, 140 different port facilities, including the refineries, have ISPS-consistent security plans in place; all meet or exceed ISPS requirements.
16. (C) The port and refinery complex, considered as single sector, is one of the seven critical infrastructure sectors in the Counter-terrorist Alert System managed by the GONL's National Coordinator for Counter-terrorism (NCTB). The alert system establishes a uniform communication structure for relaying threat information and agreed security measures to be taken to protect critical infrastructure. The system establishes four levels of alert: baseline, or basic level; low threat; moderate threat; and high threat. The Rotterdam port and petrochemical complex is currently rated at the

basic level. Because the municipality is responsible for security at the port, the national government has not done an independent vulnerability assessment. National Counter-terrorism Coordinator Tibbe Joustra told Charge October 21 that he was confident that the risk assessment conducted by the municipal government was adequate to ensure the security of the port, and that the Alert System provided an effective mechanism to alert the port and related facilities about emerging terrorist threats.

BLAKEMAN